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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2214

Say No to Deploying Ground Troops in Libya

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Cosponsor an Amendment to the FY2012 NDAA Codifying the Ground Troop Policy Endorsed by the United States and International Community

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May 2011

Dear Colleague:

I plan to introduce an amendment to the upcoming 2011 Defense Authorization Act that that will prevent appropriations from being used to fund any type of ground troop presence on Libyan territory. I hope you will consider cosponsoring this common sense effort to codify the policy endorsed by President Obama and the international community and thereby ensure that our involvement in Libya remains limited in scope.

Specifically, my amendment would prevent funds from being used to deploy, establish, or maintain a presence of Members of the Armed Services or private security contractors on the ground in Libya. The amendment contains an exception for rescuing Members of the Armed Services from imminent danger.

There is no domestic or international authority allowing for an escalation of hostilities that would put boots on the ground in Libya. The President has promised the American people that our military operations will not include ground troops. U.N. Resolution 1973 also states that military operations in Libya will exclude "a foreign occupation force of any form on any part of Libyan territory."

The time is now for Congress to exercise its constitutional authority to place boundaries on the use of our military overseas and definitively state that this conflict in Libya will not escalate into an expensive occupation that places our troops in harms way.

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor the amendment, please contact Michael Darner in my office at michael.darner@mail.house.gov or 5-5126.

Sincerely,

John Conyers, Jr